

Abstract) with the substitute specification (pages 1-10) appended hereto at Tab 1\*.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 9-16, appended hereto at Tab 3.

In the Abstract

Please delete the Abstract and replace the Abstract with the replacement Abstract appended hereto at Tab 4\*\*.

REMARKS

A. Introduction

Applicants have amended the application to conform the specification to United States patent prosecution practice and to select claimed embodiments for prosecution at this time. Also, applicants have made clerical and grammatical amendments of the Abstract.

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\* A "Marked-up Version of Substitute Specification Pursuant to 37 C.F.R § 1.12(b)(3)(iii)" is appended hereto at Tab 2.

\*\* A "Marked-up Version of Replacement Abstract Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(2)(iii)" is appended hereto at Tab 5.

B. Amendments of the Specification

Applicants have amended the specification by submitting a substitute specification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3). The substitute specification introduces no new matter. (A "Marked-up Version of Substitute Specification Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3)(iii)" is appended hereto at Tab 2.) Amendments of the specification are discussed below.

1. Addition of Section Headings,  
Amendment of Brief Description of Drawings

Applicants have added the heading "Background of the Invention" at page 1, immediately before the first paragraph, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.77(b)(5).

Applicants have added the heading "Summary of the Invention" at page 3, immediately before the first full paragraph, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.77(b)(6).

The specification included a brief description of FIGS. 1-3 at page 6, lines 1-9. Applicants have (1) amended the aforementioned brief description to better describe the FIGS.; (2) relocated the brief description to page 3, immediately before the last paragraph beginning on the page; and (3) added the heading "Brief Description of the Drawings" immediately before the aforementioned description, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.77(b)(7).

Applicants have added the heading "Detailed Description of the Invention" at page 3, immediately before the last paragraph beginning on the page (and immediately after the newly added section entitled "Brief Description of the Drawings"), pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.77(b)(8).

2. Replacement of Reference to Claims

At page 5, lines 24-25, the specification made reference to "the claims subsequent to claim 1". Applicants have replaced that reference with language from claims 1-8 to conform the specification to U.S. patent prosecution practice (see, e.g., paragraph 25 of the "Marked-up Version of Substitute Specification" appended hereto at Tab 2). MPEP § 608.01(1) ("In establishing a disclosure, applicant may rely not only on the description and drawings as filed but also on the original claims if their content justifies it."). Also, applicants have amended the sentence that included the claim reference in order to incorporate the replacement language.

3. Amendment of Description of FIGS.

Applicants have amended the specification to correct an obvious error at page 7, lines 9-10 (see Para. 32, lines 7-9 of the "Marked-up Version of

Substitute Specification" appended hereto at Tab 2). The specification referred to "lower blades 8 ... guided by means of upper blade adjusting equipment 12." Reference numeral 8, however, is used in FIG. 2, FIG. 3, and consistently throughout the specification to refer to upper blades. In addition, FIG. 3 shows upper blades 8 being guided by means of upper blade adjusting equipment 12. Applicants have, therefore, amended the specification at page 7, line 9 to read "upper blades 8 ...." Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment does not constitute new matter because one skilled in the art would not only recognize the existence of this error, but also the appropriate correction. MPEP § 2163.07(II).

#### 4. Rephrasing of Passages

At page 1, lines 7-12 applicants have replaced "compounding materials" with "composite materials" and inserted conjunctions. (See Marked-up Version of Substitute Specification, Para. No. 2.)

At page 6, line 22 applicants have replaced "immerses into" with "moves into a position near" to more clearly describe the positioning of a blade. (See Marked-up Version of Substitute Specification, Para. No. 29.) At page 7, lines 6-7, applicants have replaced

"become immersed in" with "may be placed adjacent," inter alia, to describe the positioning of blades. (See Marked-up Version of Substitute Specification, Para. No. 32.)

At page 6, lines 24-25 applicants have replaced "immersion" with "placement" and have added "into a position near" to describe the positioning of a knife. (See Marked-up Version of Substitute Specification, Para. No. 30.)

At page 2, lines 15-18 applicants have added "(i.e., an arrangement of lower blades)" to associate the word "entanglement" with context and subject matter from elsewhere in the specification. (See Marked-up Version of Substitute Specification, Para. No. 9.)

Applicants have made other minor rephrasing amendments at the following locations:

Previous Version of Specification	Marked-Up Version of the Specification (at Tab 2)
Page 1, lines 3, 4	Para. 1, lines 2-4
Page 1, line 13	Para. 2, line 8
Page 1, lines, 24-25	Para. 4, lines 4-5
Page 2, line 20	Para. 9, line 8
Page 3, line 4	Para. 10, line 7

Previous Version of Specification	Marked-Up Version of the Specification (at Tab 2)
Page 3, lines 15, 17, 18	Para. 11, lines 2, 4, 5
Page 3, lines 21-27, 30, 31 Page 4, lines 1, 2, 5	Para. 16, lines 3-10, 13, 14, 16, 20
Page 4, line 21	Para. 18, line 4
Page 5, lines 3, 4	Para. 20, lines 1, 2
Page 5, lines 10, 13-15	Para. 21, lines 2, 6-9
Page 5, lines 17, 18, 20	Para. 22, lines 2, 4-6
Page 6, lines 10, 11, 14, 16	Para. 27, lines 2, 3, 5, 9
Page 7, lines 11-15	Para. 33, lines 1-8

Applicants respectfully submit that the aforementioned amendments merely rephrase passages and do not constitute new matter. MPEP § 2163.07(I).

5. Clerical, Typographical, and Grammatical Amendments

Applicants have added paragraph numbering to the specification to facilitate the identification of text therein.

Applicants have amended the specification to correct minor typographical and grammatical errors and minor clerical details at the following locations:

Previous Version of Specification	Marked-Up Version of the Specification (at Tab 2)
Page 1, line 23	Para. 4, line 3
Page 2, line 8	Para. 5, line 2
Page 2, lines 9, 10	Para. 6, lines 1, 2
Page 2, lines 11, 12	Para. 7, lines 1, 2
Page 2, line 20	Para. 9, line 8
Page 3, lines 8, 9	Para. 10, lines 11, 12
Page 5, lines 9, 11	Para. 21, lines 1, 2, 4
Page 5, lines 17, 18	Para. 22, lines 2, 3
Page 6, line 10, 11, 14	Para. 27, line 2, 6
Page 6, line 20	Para. 29, lines 1, 2
Page 6, line 24, 25, 26	Para. 30, lines 1, 2, 4
Page 7, line 2	Para. 31, line 2
Page 7, line 4	Para. 32, line 1
Page 7, line 11	Para. 33, line 1

C. Amendments of the Claims

Applicants have canceled claims 1-8 without prejudice and have added new claims 9-16 having subject matter that was present in the canceled claims.

Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of canceled claims 1-8, including any embodiments originally defined by improper multiple dependent claims, in one or more continuation or divisional applications.

Claims 1-8 were replaced by claims 9-16 to remove improper multiple dependencies and select claimed embodiments for prosecution at this time. Support for new claims 9-16 is found throughout the previous version of the specification, particularly at pages 3-7. Support for new claims 9-16 is also found in originally filed claims 1-8, as summarized in the following table.

New Claim	Supporting claim(s)
9	1
10	2
11	4
12	5
13	6
14	3